

## Communications Committee Meeting

September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

SEAWA Office, 41-419 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE, Medicine Hat, AB, T1A 0G9

Attending: Cathy Linowski, Natasha Rogers, Marilou Montemayor, Jass Baidwan, Diane Harty, Brooklyn Neubeker (recording)

Regrets: Martha Munz-Gue, Angela Walsh

1. Call to order: 11:40am. Cathy Linowski volunteered to chair the meeting.
2. Agenda – Additions, Deletions & Approval: Approved by consensus.
3. Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018:  
Review of action items by Natasha Rogers.  
Approved by consensus.
4. Welcome new members: Angela Walsh, Diane Harty, and Jass Baidwan.
5. Debrief on summer communication events:
  - Canada Day – SEAWA had a booth with macroinvertebrates for public viewing.
  - Water Treatment Plant Tour attended July 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - Vermi Farm Tour attended July 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - Stampede – SEAWA had a booth from July 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, with help from volunteer macroinvertebrates were brought for public viewing.
  - Fall Weed Pull with Medicine Hat College Students on September 8<sup>th</sup>, students pulled out leafy spurge, Canada thistle and sow thistle.
  - Presentation of Summer Student Report
  - Presentation of Project WET workshop

### Upcoming Events:

- Propose to board a Youth Advisory Committee
- Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup (October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018) – Join Grasslands Naturalists for a shoreline cleanup.
- Regional Science Fair Demonstration (March, 2019) – Have SEAWA invited to do a demonstration using activities from Project Wet.
- Methanex Volunteer Day (September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019) – Dig leafy spurge at landowner site.
- Downtown Art Walk for Alberta Culture Days (September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019) – have apple cider for public.

6. Communication materials:
  - a) November Newsletter tentative ideas:
    - Riparian initiatives to get cows out of streams, funding available.
    - Ground Water
    - Biodiversity – Sturgeons in our area.
    - Bioaccumulation – mercury naturally present in our area, limits on recreational fisheries.
    - Wetlands in the SEAWA watershed, ephemeral wetlands, and the importance for bird migration.
  - b) Info sheet:
    - Proposed that SEAWA should create a recreational fisheries info sheet.
  - c) Tour:
    - Arrange a day to have Rob Gardner show SEAWA around the bog/wetlands on Mitchell Farm.
7. November Forum:
  - Highlight volunteer work during update of riparian restoration project, and mulching trials.
  - Get a bioengineering speaker.
  - Promotion: Get on Medicine Hat Community Events Calendar, CJCY radio events list, Shaw community events, Articles in Foremost and Bow Island Newsletter. Contact Maple Creek as well.
  - Contact Ron Linowski about presenting a poster focusing on the monitoring of species at risk.
8. Public Engagement:
  - Post photos from location visits, activities. Promote special days like Zero Emissions Day, World Rivers Day, World Habitat Day to get more social media engagement.
  - Get youth groups involved such as sports teams, Medicine Hat Skateboarder Association, 4-H. Reach out to sports teams, etc, to participate in restoration projects.
9. Spring forum potential topics:
  - Storm water theme
  - Constructed wetlands and rain gardens
  - Extreme weather events due to climate change.
10. Meeting was adjourned at 12:57pm.